

Amendments to the Drawings

The Office Action objected to the drawings for not showing reference signs 4b and B mentioned in the description.

The Applicants attach two Replacement Sheets and two Annotated Sheet to address the lack of reference sign 4b. The Applicants have also amended the specification to address the objection regarding the reference sign B.

Attachments: 3 Replacement Sheets showing FIGS. 1-4
2 Annotated Sheets showing amendments to FIGS. 2, 3, and 4

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed on March 8, 2007 objected to the Specification, objected to the Drawings, and Rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

With entry of this Amendment and Response, the Specification, the Abstract, and claim 1 are amended, and the drawings are replaced by the attached Replacement Sheets. The Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced with these amendments or replacements.

With entry of this Amendment and Response claims 1-18 will be pending and under consideration.

Information Disclosure statement

The Office Action noted that the listing of references in the specification is not a proper Information Disclosure Statement.

The Applicants submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(b). The Applicants respectfully request consideration of the disclosed references.

In the Specification

The Office Action objected to the Abstract for exceeding the 150 word limit.

The Applicants have amended the specification so that the Abstract is now within the 150 word limit. Attached on a separate sheet is a clean, non-marked up copy of the amended Abstract having less than 150 words. As a result of this amendment, the Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Abstract be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In the Drawings

The Office Action noted that formal drawings were not received with the filing of the application on March 23, 2005. The Office Action also noted that the Examiner assumed that the drawings of the foreign application are to be the formal drawings.

The Applicants submit that the drawings of the foreign application are to be the formal drawings. The Applicants also submit three Replacement Sheets showing FIGS. 1-4 based upon the drawings of the foreign application.

The Office Action objected to the drawings for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Office Action states that reference signs round opening 4b and bending plane B are mentioned in the specification, but are omitted in the drawings.

The Applicants submit replacement FIGS. 2, 3, and 4 (see Replacement Sheets and Annotated Sheets showing FIGS. 2, 3, and 4), which show round opening 4b. The Applicants also amended the specification to remove reference character “B.” Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

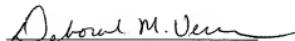
The Office Action rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regards as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action notes that lines 15 and 18 of claim 1 state the limitation “contains means ...” however, there is no structure described in the specification that meets this limitation.

The Applicants amended claim 1, deleting the limitation “contains means” from lines 15 and 18. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Additionally the Applicants respectfully request that claims 2-18 be allowed as depending upon allowable base claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-18 are in condition for allowance and request early favorable action. The Examiner is welcome to contact Applicants' Attorney at the number below with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah M. Vernon
PTO Reg. No. 55,699
Attorney for the Applicants
Proskauer Rose LLP
One International Place
Boston, MA 02110

Date: June 1, 2007

Tel. No.: (617) 526-9836
Fax. No.: (617) 526-9899